

OCTOBER 23, 2012

CITY OF GUNNISON COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES

7:00 P.M.

The City Council Regular Session meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by Mayor Houck with Councilors Harriman, Seymour and Nesbitt present, along with City Attorney Fogo, City Manager Coleman, City Clerk Davidson, Public Works Director Bradford, Community Development Director Westbay, Finance Director Hanson, City Event Manager Messner, WSCU Liaison Nickerson, the press and a couple of citizens. Councilor Drexel was absent. A Council quorum was present.

Mayor Houck began the meeting by asking for a moment of silence in memory of former City Councilor and Mayor, Rick Miller. Mr. Miller was killed in a tragic accident on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Consideration of Minutes:****Regular Session Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2012.**

Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilor Harriman seconded the motion to approve the Regular Session Meeting minutes of October 9, 2012, as submitted.

Roll call vote, yes: Harriman, Houck, Seymour, Nesbitt. Motion carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Pre-Scheduled Citizens:**

**USA Pro Challenge Race Event Review – Events Manager John Messner.** Manager Messner reviewed the basic statistics from Classic Bicycle Racing for the 2012 USA Pro Challenge Race. Items included: there were over 1 million viewers; 128 riders representing 23 countries; there were 6 billion media impressions; 90,000 social media followers; and 31 live hours of race coverage from NBC sports. Councilor Nesbitt commented he has heard some naysayers about the race in the community and we had bad press from the Denver Post journalist. He will provide that article to Council for their review. Event Manager Messner stated the main impact is not a direct positive day impact but comes from later visitors who saw the area from the media exposure. Gunnison was viewed in 161 countries worldwide. From the marketing standpoint, we couldn't afford to do this marketing exposure ourselves. He went on to review the local race budget. There was \$81,000 revenue generated. Some of this was in-kind service and some was cash. At least \$45,000 of the revenue was then spent back locally. The City expense was approximately \$15,000. City Manager Coleman stated we need to view it as a long-term investment. Staff is now looking at Council for direction concerning the 2013. Are they interested in pursuing hosting the race next year? Bids will be received in mid-November. Councilor Nesbitt stated that Gunnison is the hub of the wheel – in the center. Council consensus was for Staff to pursue participation in next year's race.

**Unfinished Business:****2013 Budget Discussion.**

**Georgia Avenue Master Plan.** Community Development Director Westbay came forward. He has placed a memo in Council's packet that summarizes the current and upcoming Community Development Staff workload. Director Westbay reviewed these projects with Council and stated finishing the Land Development Plan, the new Master Plan and the 3-Mile Plan updates are the highest priorities. He then stated his recommendation is to include the Georgia Avenue Master Plan in with the *Pedestrian and Non-Motorized Transportation Plan* work. The Georgia Avenue piece can be tied in with the public and the students. It's important to ask the students how they actually access downtown now and how they would like to in the future. Mayor Houck feels the connectivity between the campus and downtown is a priority and we shouldn't wait forever for the development to take place. The City needs to keep building the partnership with WSCU. The connectivity has benefits for both the City and WSCU. Director Westbay indicated the CD Department will be holding public outreach meetings on the Plan. This will take place until early January with projected adoption of the *Pedestrian and Non-Motorized Plan* by Council in late-January. Council concurred with including the Georgia Avenue Master Plan in the Pedestrian Plan.

Councilor Nesbitt asked Director Westbay about the industrial development being proposed east of town. Director Westbay informed Council the Planning & Zoning Commission reviewed the proposal and sent a letter to the County Planning commission outlining City concerns with the project. Some of the issues included water and air quality, traffic and the view corridor. City Manager Coleman stated that Staff hasn't taken an official position on the project.

**City Entry Signs.** City Manager Coleman informed Council there were renderings of possible sign types included in their packets. There are no definitive costs associated with these signs at this time. The City has \$10,000 in the 2013 proposed budget for new City entry signs but he doesn't think that will cover the costs of the proposed signs. WSCU is proposing a cost-sharing partnership on new signs. The east entry sign would be the first priority but it hasn't been determined if this would be placed in the existing sign location or moved to the new east City limit by the cemetery. The City Manager stated it would be cheaper to replace the existing sign because the associated infrastructure is in-place. Councilor Nesbitt proposed issuing a challenge grant to the University that for increased enrollment the City would participate in the sign costs. A short discussion ensued. Councilors Seymour and Harriman stated the signs are important but we need additional details. A short discussion ensued. Council concurred to leave the \$10,000 in the budget for the entry signs as a place-holder and re-evaluate the cost as more information becomes available. WSCU Liaison Nickerson told Council, while serving as an orientation guide for prospective students and families, he has heard more complaints about people having trouble getting back to campus from downtown than about the entry signs. There needs to be better directional signs from downtown to the campus.

**Grants & Contracts for Service Discussion.** Finance Director Hanson asked Council if they have any decisions or direction about the Gunnison Hinsdale Confidential Advocacy Center (GHCAC) presentation from last week. Mayor Houck wondered about any duplication of services. City Manager Coleman suggested that each entity stands on its own merits. Finance Director Hanson informed Council there is approximately \$9,000 in the Additional Contracts for Service line item that is available at this point. Mayor Pro Tem Harriman stated she would like to see \$1,000 for the GHCAC. This group was funded before as the Jubilee House. Discussion ensued. Council concurred to grant GHCAC the \$1,000 they requested and that they want to hear from the Victim's Preventative Advocacy group as well. The City Manager stated they are scheduled to meet with Council next Tuesday evening.

Mayor Houck asked Council if he could bring forward a **Non-Scheduled Citizen**. Doug Hudson, a CB South resident, addressed Council. Mr. Hudson and his wife currently own Gravity Grooms in Crested Butte. The camp operates only 3 months of the year. They are in the process of opening an in-door gravity center with the purchase of the Sandy Bush Ranch on Highway 135. Mr. Hudson is asking for a Letter of Support from City Council that would assist in obtaining loans and for a minor land use change from Gunnison County. Mr. Hudson stated there's a demand for this type of business. Mayor Houck stated that the facility would be a draw for WSCU students as well. Mayor Pro Tem Harriman stated we have done a variety of letters of support in the past. Discussion ensued. Council consensus was to direct Staff to proceed with a letter of support. The City Manager will work with Mr. Hudson.

Before leaving, Mr. Hudson then told Council he is a member of an OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) advocacy group. They are trying to bring together organizations to get a bridge across Cement Creek at the Deadman's Gulch Trailhead. A grant for construction of the bridge was previously denied. They are looking for letters of support and financial support for construction of the bridge. Mayor Houck stated that the Forest Service needs to hear from diverse groups that are in support of the project. City Manager Coleman will look further into the issue.

#### **New Business:**

##### **Excuse Councilor Drexel from the Meeting.**

Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilor Seymour seconded the motion to excuse Councilor Drexel from tonight's meeting due to his absence from the City on personal business.

Roll call vote, yes: Houck, Seymour, Nesbitt, Harriman. Motion carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Appointment of 2012-2013 Youth City Council Members.** City Clerk Davidson informed Council that no YCC members were present this evening due to conflicts with school work and activities. City Clerk Davidson stated these were a great group of young people, dedicated students and she is looking forward to working with them this year.

Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilor Harriman seconded the motion to appoint Anna Ferrero, Leo Ferrero, Tim Cranor, William Eager, Lucas Justice, Joey Chamberland, Alex Saiers and Sarah Orth to the 2012-2013 Youth City Council.

Roll call vote, yes: Seymour, Nesbitt, Harriman, Houck. Motion carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Action on Letter Regarding Eagle Net Project.** This item was discussed at last week's Work Session meeting. There were no changes to the letter from last week's review.

Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilors Harriman and Seymour concurrently seconded the motion to approve the Letter to Communications and Information Assistant Secretary Lawrence Strickling, with cc's to Senator Bennett, Senator Udall and Representative Tipton, regarding the Eagle Net Project and for all of Council to sign said letter.

Roll call vote, yes: Nesbitt, Harriman, Houck, Seymour. Motion carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Ordinance and Resolutions:** None.

**City Attorney Kathleen Fogo:** Nothing to report.

**City Manager:** Ken Coleman reported on the following: Staff has been reviewing the budget numbers and there is approximately \$87,000 in unencumbered funds at this time; Staff consensus is to keep this most of the funds as a cushion but to increase the capital line item for City Hall capital improvements and repairs; the Insurance Committee met last week with the CEBT Health Insurance representative Jim Herman, and there will be an estimated 20% premium increase starting in July, 2013; the Insurance Committee also met with a representative of American Fidelity Insurance who gave a presentation on the tax deferred Section 125 Plan; the City is going to bid out a required bond arbitrage compliance audit and this will cost between \$2800 and \$3500; the Police Department is working on amendments to the Nuisance and Animal Codes; meetings have been held regarding the Highway Access Control Plan' employee evaluations are underway; he met with the Senior Group regarding their programming and facility requests; and he attended the CML Legislative Policy meeting in Denver last Friday. It was a diverse and active group of 50 to 60 participants. The group discussed possible issues to take before the legislature in the next session. Some topics included municipal court fine increases and oil and gas drilling regulations.

**Acting City Manager:** Public Works Director Tex Bradford briefly reviewed the Public Works Semi-Annual report in their packets. Director Bradford discussed the following topics: the Water Crew has started on the Habitat for Humanity water and sewer mains installation; manhole rehabilitation is done for the year as is concrete and sidewalk replacement work; the concrete flatwork on the new skatepark will be done tomorrow; this year's street projects are complete and the contractor was unable to complete all of the scheduled work; he received the last invoice today from the paving contractor so he will have those total figures soon; the contractor had to rotomill and repair some asphalt patches on Escalante Drive and on Arthur Avenue; the Nordic track on the VanTuyl Ranch was mowed in anticipation of snow; the crews will be placing some culvert across the trail at the ranch; he attended the CAMU meeting last week and the Governor's Energy Office is now the Colorado Energy Office with reduced funding; he continues to work on the fiber versus wireless options to connect City facilities and the new Police/Dispatch Center; he and the City Manager will be meeting with WSCU students and a professor regarding the student fees being utilized for renewable energy; he attended the Region 10 Transportation meeting in Montrose today and the 2040 Transportation Plan was discussed; and he will be obtaining more information on upcoming Gunnison area CDOT highway projects. Mayor Houck asked about parking across sidewalks at curb cuts. Director Bradford stated parking across sidewalks at curb cuts is not allowed and he will get with NSO regarding any issues. A short discussion then ensued regarding WAPA electric allocations. Council thanked Director Bradford for his report.

**City Clerk:** Gail Davidson. Nothing to report.

**WSCU Liaison:** Adam Nickerson reported on the following: the 3-day, Adventure Film Festival will start on Wednesday evening and will continue through Friday evening; the SGA-

sponsored County Commissioner Candidates Forum will take place at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday; and there will be a home football game against Mines this Saturday afternoon.

**Non-Scheduled Citizens:** there were no additional non-scheduled citizens.

**City Council Discussion, Meeting Reports, Items for Work Session:**

**Mayor Pro Tem Harriman:** reported she attended a Gunnison Housing Foundation meeting and they are inching forward. Early voting started on Monday and she urges everyone to return their mail ballots.

**Mayor Houck:** reported he met with constituents in Cindy Westbay's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class. The students have adopted City Hall and will be displaying work and art they produce this year. The CBMR Choice Ski Pass sign-up included 300 to 400 students in the Valley. He will be attending the RTA meeting on Friday.

**Councilor Seymour:** reported the Library Board hosted Judge Hobbs for a poetry reading on campus and the Board has extended an offer for a new Executive Director.

**Councilor Nesbitt:** reported he attended the Water Board meeting last night and they discussed their budget including the amount of reserves they need for future water issues. The Water Roundtable continues to discuss a water conservation plan. There is no direct benefit to us to conserve water. If the water goes downstream then we lose it. We have no current storage capacity downstream. It is a sensitive issue. They are currently releasing 50 cfs out of Taylor Reservoir. He attended the Chamber Board meeting this morning. The Chamber Awards Dinner last week was successful and Cory attended for the City. He will also be attending the RTA meeting this Friday.

On another note, Public Works Director Bradford informed Council he will attend the Highway 135 and Spence Avenue project walk-through tomorrow afternoon. Mayor Pro Tem Harriman expressed concern about the configuration of the new signal light buttons at that intersection. Director Bradford will investigate the situation and get back with Council.

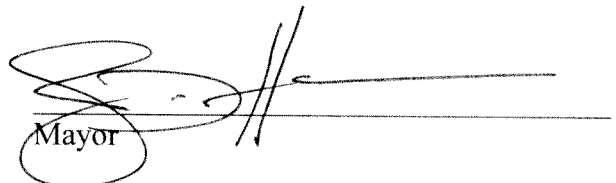
Mayor Houck brought up Council sending a **Letter to the Editor of the Gunnison Times regarding the passing of former Councilor and Mayor Rick Miller.** The City Manager and City Clerk crafted a letter for Council to peruse. The only Council comment was changing "Dear Editor" to "Dear Community" in the salutation.

Councilor Nesbitt moved and Councilor Seymour seconded the motion to approve, with the suggested amendment, the Letter to the Editor of the Gunnison Times regarding the passing of former City Councilor and Mayor Rick Miller.


Roll call vote, yes: Harriman, Houck, Seymour, Nesbitt. Motion carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

**Adjournment:** Mayor Houck called for any further discussion, and hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 9:31 P.M.



Mayor



Gail A. Davidson  
 City Clerk